

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly amend the Abstract as follows:

Featured are ~~The present invention features methods and joint enhancing compositions~~ for the treatment, reduction, and prevention of degenerative joint disorders in a mammal ~~by administering to a mammal a joint enhancing composition.~~ According to this invention, the composition increases the level of expression and secretion of endogenous lubricin such that the joints in the mammal being treated are lubricated. This composition can be administered alone or in combination with one or more therapeutic agents.